

and a wine tasting, hey a party day, nothing accomplished but the red wine certainly loosened one important attendee's tongue about their real thoughts.

The third was at a Hackett hall when all minority protagonist group devotes where called to a meeting with a representative of I think is the left leaning Australian Institute to explain his article that was given a run in the Canberra Times some time previous re drag racing, economy and environment and I am now led to believe this person is a resident of the area, hum, sadly the Canberra Times refused motor sports representatives a right of reply.

Anyway the devout members of this organised protagonist group assembled in force, a whole eleven, repeat eleven [11] people attended the meeting including the convener, the guest speaker, myself and another motor sport person.

OK, moving on from the 2004 election to 2007 and the ruling Labor Assembly, you no that mob that were going to tear down the walls to get the new Canberra International Dragway up and running have turned to lies, deception, more questionable studies and smoke and mirrors with statements claiming their intentions are still honourable, "yeah". In the meantime the now Liberal opposition come out bleating at Labor questioning their time frames and intentions when in hindsight one of those bleaters is the then Liberal member that forced the closure of the facility with nary a sign of compensation.

What a mess, what a crock of rot by both parties and assembly independent, as my dear old dad "god rest his soul" would have said, you can tell when an Assembly polly is fibbing, generally their lips are moving.

October is coming and if assembly members continue to treat motor sport and motor sport participants and supporters as second class citizens be advised you are doing so at your own peril.

Michael Attwell  
Dunlop ACT

## HOW CAN WE COME BACK NEXT YEAR?

Dear DA,

I haven't spoken to any of the guys yet so I don't know if this has been done, but on behalf of the Queensland Comp Bike competitors I wish to extend many thanks for the welcome and overall treatment we all received on our trip West.

**Please believe me when I say this that we (Gp 2 bikes) just don't get treatment like this anywhere else in the country.**

The consensus between the guys was "for another \$500 - \$1000) we can come over here and really enjoy ourselves" compared to south. Although for everyone else it was their first trip over, this was my third (the previous two were in Mod Bike) and it has been the same every time.

Suffice to say, the guys are all talking about



how we can come back next year! To be involved in such a large field and quality was an achievement for myself and it was no shame to go down to Russell (Colton) who went on to win the event. Please also pass on thanks to Tony Woods mum (?) for an outstanding job as Bracket Marshall.

Once again,  
Thank You  
Keg Garland B/SB 3778

*Keg, it makes the difficult job of travelling to race much more fun when the track staff and competitors recognise that you are there for the fun, just like they are. ED*

## KIWI POWER

Dear DA,

The Summer Nationals at Western Sydney International Dragway on the 15th and 16th of February saw yet another New Zealander in the winning seat. Athol Williams and crew, won the first ever "Christmas Tree" for New Zealand, when they defeated the Australian Harley rider, Brett Stevens in a close final round.

Athol was number one qualifier after three rounds with a personal best time of 6.562 seconds for the 1/4 mile at 197mph out of a ten bike qualifying field. Leonard Azzopardi was sitting second with Brett Stevens and Troy McLean, third and fourth respectively. The elimination rounds gave Athol an easy win against Phil Parker, then a semi with Troy McLean - a very strong contender. Times for that round, Athol 6.569 sec (201mph) to Troys 6.87 (181mph) pulling the Stud Racing team into the final against Brett with a result of Athol 6.65 sec at 199mph to Bretts 6.71 sec at 208mph... a very close and awesome race to watch! Go Kiwi - who said Kiwi's can't fly Athol sure can.

The Kiwi's in the crowd were loving it! The Stud Racing team is absolutely ecstatic with the win. It has been a hard slog, a lot of hours and a lot of money to get that trophy. We spent five solid months of completely rebuilding the complete bike after it decided to turn into shrapnel at

Willowbank, Brisbane in September 2006.

**The pieces flew so far and with such velocity that a piece of Barrel liner smashed a dozen eggs 50mts away from the bike - that was devastation.**

But now we have bounced back and we are lucky to have such a dedicated and skillful crew with very special thanks to our crew chief, Roger Bloor of R B Performance for his expertise in manufacturing and building our latest motors.

Since the rebuild we have contested the Winternationals at Brisbane last June, plus the first four rounds of the Australian Championship and are currently sitting third in the point score series (out of seventeen bikes), with three more meetings still to go - that is a huge achievement!

We haven't suffered any major damage since installing the RBP engines. Maintenance is a lot easier and less stressful. The crew are happy and we are looking forward to racing in Perth on the 1st and 2nd March.

A big thanks must go to Stud Welding New Zealand Ltd for all the financial input, as well as Galas Racing, Hilti, Jackson Electrical and Daniel Booby of Spineflex for their assistance in keeping us on track so to speak. It's a very expensive exercise, and keeping going with the \$\$\$\$s is of course a major issue, especially competing internationally. We are desperate for an Australian sponsor, just like any other team. The aim is to be the first Kiwi to win the Australian Championship - WOW, that would be something also!

P.S. We have applied for an export permit from Australia for more gold Christmas Trees, just in case.

Thank You  
Sharon and Athol Williams

